



B-VARC BULLETIN

The Monthly Publication of the
BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Serving Fort Bend and Harris Counties

Editor in Chief: Kelley Hughes N5ULZ (713) 499-9806 FAX: (713) 499-0279 Compuserve ID: 72603,623

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC) was originally organized in 1978, primarily as an emergency communications group available to assist the communities of Missouri City and Stafford when required. Since that time, BVARC has grown and expanded its activities to become the most active Ham radio club in the southwest Houston area.

Today, BVARC is truly a general-interest club, with an impressive record of Public Service. This commitment to service has been recognized by the Amateur Radio Relay League with the coveted status of Special Service Club. We are proud of our members, who represent the finest in Amateur Radio. Membership is not limited to licensed operators, but is open to anyone with an interest in Amateur Radio. Meetings are held at 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month at the Sugar Land Community Center. Talk-in assistance is available on the 145.47 and 444.55 MHz repeaters.

To obtain information about the club and its various activities, as well as information about joining the club, contact Betty Wilcox, KA0TEN, at (713) 859-6512.

Volume: 17 Issue: 9

September 1994

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

From: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P. O. Box 1630
Missouri City, Texas 77459



B-VARC MEETING SCHEDULE

Thursday, Oct. 6 7:30 pm	Board of Directors Meeting Sugar Land Community Center
Thursday, Oct. 13 7:30 pm	General BVARC Membership Meeting - Sugar Land Community Center

Allen Mattis N5AFV
5314 Wigton Drive
Houston, TX 77096



October 1994 B-VARC Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
2 7:30 PM A.R.E.S. Net 147.30	3 7:30 PM 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00 PM Fort Bend County Emergency Net 145.49 9:00 PM BVARC Net 145.47 & Linked Repeaters	4 8:00 PM 10-10 SHOT Net 28.488 10:00 PM AMSAT 147.10	5 8:00 PM B-VARC Rag Chew 3.960 (Busy? +3 KHz)	6 7:30 PM B-VARC Board Meeting: Sugar Land Community Center	7	1 6:30 AM MS Enduro Skate 7:30 AM B-VARC Breakfast 9:00 AM Hou. Emergency Management NET 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905)																																										
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Please report any changes or correct. to Kelley Hughes, N5ULZ, 499-9806

Notes From the President

by Doug Holley, KE5SR

I hope that all of our members and families had a good summer, hopefully with a vacation that you enjoyed. I have not been fortunate to have had my vacation yet, but I hope to get away soon. The club and other responsibilities have kept me more than busy thus far this year.

I would like to thank "Scanner Jack" (KV5TMY) for an informative July program on scanners. Jack had so much information to convey to the group and time seemed to be too short. The August program was presented by Randy Pollard (AK5G) on QCWA. This was an outstanding presentation and I wish to also thank Randy for bringing it to the group. There was time at the end of Randy's presentation left, so Jack talked a bit more about scanners and answered questions. Thanks again, Jack.

Our program schedule for the October 13 meeting will be provided by Tom Taormina who spoke to us earlier this year. The subject of the program will be "The Curse of Ft. Huachuca." I will leave you in suspense about the substance of just what this program is about, so you will have to be at the meeting to learn the rest of the story. I will promise that you will like the program very much and you will not forget this true story. I am personally sorry to learn that Tom is unable to run for the Vice-Director of the West Gulf Division of A.R.R.L. I felt like Tom was the person we needed to support us in that position. Tom is a person of many talents and wears many hats, but most of all is eager to roll up his sleeve and work for his fellow hams.

I am sorry to announce that the September 6 seminar on hazardous materials that was to be conducted by Ft. Bend County Emergency Management was canceled at the last moment because the printed material was not available to present the course. The seminar has been rescheduled for October 4, 1994. The time and location are the same. The seminar will be conducted at the George Memorial Library in Richmond, Texas. Two sessions will be held: the first from 7:00 a.m. until noon and the second session will be held 6:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. Please let me know if you can attend, so I can let Ron know. I look forward to seeing you there.

There are plans beginning to be made for a group that will organize a 1995 or 1996 ham convention for the Texas Gulf Coast area. We have lost our chance for a 1994 hamvention and the undertaking to reorganize for a future convention will require tremendous organization and lots of work. There are over 126 different ham clubs in our area and an opportunity for each of them to participate will be offered. Some groundwork is presently underway, and by November 1994, we should be seeing directions and be hearing about the basic plans. I will write more about this in the future.

On August 28, a group of our members met at Bill Clark's (WB5YDD) old home to take down a 50-ft. tower, pushup

BVARC RAG CHEW CHECK-INS 3.960 MHz 8:00pm Wednesdays Compiled by Mel Thatcher, KB5ION

August 10, 1994

KE5SR (Net Control), N5OAC, N5AFV, W5GHK, KI5SC, KB5PAJ, N5UOG, N5CPA, W5GLD, KB5LFU, W5IHY, W5EFB, N5KXU, KG5KV

August 17, 1994

KB5ION (Net Control), N5OAC, N5CPA, W5GHK, W5GLD, WD5CJL, N5UOG, KI5SC, KB5PAJ, KE5SR, W5IHY, WA5OEN, KG5KV

August 24, 1994

N5CPA (Net Control), KE5SR, WA5SCE, KB5ZRV, WA5OEN, KB5ION, N5AFV, WD5CJL, KG5KV, N5OAC, KI5SC, KB5BAJ, WN5A, W5GHK, W5IHY, N5YKR, N5UOG

August 31, 1994

N5CPA (Net Control), W5GHK, W5J73TW, N5AFV, KG5KV, KB5LFU, W5GLD, KI5SC, KB5BAJ, WN5A, AB5OK, W5EFB, WD5CJL, WA5SCE, KF5NU

poles and numerous antennas. Bill moved to a new home, and for those of you that don't know, Bill is disabled and unable to do this work for himself. The pushup poles and antennas were reassembled at his new home the same day. So many good-hearted hams came out and donated their Sunday to help Bill. Those that I can remember are Bill Dessens (N5KXU), Louis House (KD5GM), Doug Holley (KE5SR), Dwayne Sumrall (KC5EUQ), Mel Thatcher (KB5ION), and Jack Van DeMark (WN5A). If your name was left out, I apologize. Thanks guys—job well done.

Our annual BVARC picnic is scheduled for October 29. Don't let this get by you, as it is one of our biggest events of the year. I will write with details in October's newsletter.

October will be one of our busiest months of the year. We have one or more public service events scheduled every weekend and Dwayne Jones (KB5YTA) has confirmed reservations at Stephen F. Austin State Park for October 22 for a campout. See you there.

Elections are coming up in November. We need to know now if there are candidates for any of the positions. Please think about someone that you think would do well in a given office. Check with the person to insure that they would be willing to run, then contact Betty (KA0TEN) with your nomination. Time is short and we want to hear from you soon.

If you have thoughts, problems, or need help of any kind, always feel free to call on me. If I can't help, I will find someone that can. That's part of my job as your president.

72' by Doug Holley (KE5SR)

Board of Directors Meeting

by Bud King, N5UOG

A quorum of the B-VARC Board of Directors met at the Sugar Land Community Center on September 1, 1994. This was the ninth meeting of the Board for the 1994 calendar year. The following Board members were in attendance: Doug Holley, KE5SR; Melvin Thatcher, KB5ION; Betty Wilcox, KA0TEN; Sam Wilson, N5CPA; Vincent Orlando, WA5ETS; Victor Richard, N5NAS; and Bud King, N5UOG.

President Holley, KE5SR, opened the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Bud King, N5UOG, submitted the minutes of the August Board meeting, and they were approved unanimously.

Sam Wilson, N5CPA, the Club Treasurer, reported a balance of \$3,486.69 in the treasury as of August 31, 1994. The Treasurer's report was approved unanimously. Sam Wilson also reported that the Club membership was up to 230. Allen Mattis, N5AFV, and Sam Wilson, N5CPA, notified the Board that the bank had assessed service charges on their Club's accounts, said charges were later rescinded.

Melvin Thatcher, KB5ION, gave the Board an enthusiastic report concerning the B-VARC Rag Chew Net.

Doug Holley informed the Board that Dwayne Jones, KB5YTA, was organizing another B-VARC Camp Out. Information concerning the event will be forthcoming.

Future Programs and Events: September 8, General Meeting, "QCWA", to be presented by it's President Randy Pollard, AK5G, and "Additional Scanner Information", by Jack Roberts, KB5TMY; October 29, "B-VARC ANNUAL PICNIC"; November 10, "ANNUAL CHILI SUPPER", and "ELECTION OF OFFICERS" for 1995; December 8, "PROJECT BEACON" to be presented by Allen Mattis, N5AFV.

Al Zermeno, KK5W, informed the Board of his contact with Kenny Manchester, NZ5I of the Texas DX Society, and their conversation concerning the lack of a Houston Area amateur radio convention for 1994. Additional conversations and meetings are on their agendas. Future plans will be made available to the Board as progress occurs.


The Board, as a whole, participated in discussions as to how the Club membership could be increased, and the sources of programs on tape that would be of interest to the members. The month of February has been picked for the start-up of the B-VARC 1995 Theory Class.

President Holley adjourned the meeting at 9:00 PM.

Adolph Alex - WASUHT

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W5IHY

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A Note of Appreciation

by Doug Holley (KE5SR)

For the past two years, I have taught code classes for those that were interested. In an attempt to help fellow hams learn 5 and 13 words per minute, we have all had to work hard. These training sessions have lasted as long as 13 weeks. The hams we have helped to learn the code and upgrade their licenses have all made it worthwhile.

Fellow ham, Louis House, KD5GM, came to me and volunteered to teach the last session with me. He took over teaching the classes and exhibited leadership and skill with his manner of teaching. The students learned quickly and enjoyed coming to class. The success of the code class goes to Louis.

Louis's love for CW goes way back and he is also a dedicated traffic handler on the H.F. nets, and is involved in the training of CW traffic handling. Whenever fellow hams need help with their projects, Louis is usually first in line to help. Just recently, Louis was there to help Bill Clark with his antenna and tower work—then later spent several Saturdays helping Bill move his household furnishings to a new location. Louis is a super "volunteer."

All I can say, Louis, is a sincere thanks and that this world would be a better place to live with more people or more good hams like you.

